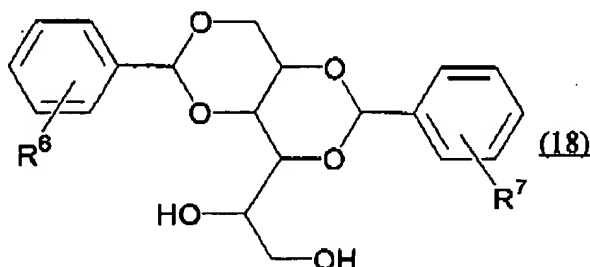


B. Amendment to the Specification

Please amend the last two paragraphs on page 15 as follows.

--Reference Compound No. (18)



The dibenzylidene sorbitol derivative represented by the reference formula (18), wherein R⁶ and R⁷ are each an aliphatic hydrocarbon group having a carbon number of 1 to 29 or an aryl group, can be used but it requires a stabilizer to be chemically stable.—

(Please amend the paragraph at page 36, line 27 - page 37, line 8, as follows.)

--The same procedure as used in Example 1 was carried out except that the compound represented by the reference formula (18), where both R⁶ and R⁷ are methyl groups (Sample R), was used as the gelling agent and potassium sorbate was added as the stabilizer. The mixture gelled without adding any organic solvent. When the gel was left standing for 6 months at room temperature, neither leakage of ImBF₄ nor discoloration of the gel was observed.--